Mayor and City Council Agenda Item Request

Meeting Date: 5/28/2013 Type: Work Session Discussion

Call to Podium:

Becky Uebele, Project Manager, Department of Public Works

Agenda Item Title:

Overview of the Middle Great Seneca Creek Watershed Study

Responsible Staff and Department:

James D. Arnoult, Director of Public Works
Dyan Backe, Sustainability Planner, Planning & Code Administration
Donald Boswell, Civil Engineer, Department of Public Works
Meredith Strider, Environmental Specialist, Planning & Code Administration
Becky Uebele, Project Manager, Department of Public Works

Desired Outcome from Council:

Hear Presentation and Provide Staff Guidance.

Public Hearing History	
Introduction Date:	
Advertisement Date :	
Public Hearing Date:	
Record Held Open Date:	
Policy Discussion Date:	
Anticipated Adoption Date:	

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Supporting Background Information:

As part of the State's Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), counties and municipalities with Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permits will have goals for nutrient and sediment reductions. It is anticipated that the City will also be required to have nutrient and sediment reductions in order to renew its MS4 permit.

The development of a watershed plan is the first step toward developing a WIP. A watershed plan provides a framework for achieving local watershed protection and restoration goals and ensures that efforts build upon and complement one another. Such a plan would identify priority areas and include stewardship activities, water quality project opportunities, and estimates of implementation costs.

The first plan to be developed is for the Middle Seneca Creek watershed. This watershed drains over three (3) square miles of the City and includes portions of the MD 355 corridor, the Fairgrounds, and Lake Forest Mall. It also includes various other residential areas, as well as commercial, office and light industrial uses. The URS Corporation was selected as the consultant for this project.

This presentation is an overview of the Middle Great Seneca Creek Watershed Assessment's progress and findings since its kick-off meeting in August 2012. The presentation will be made by Melissa Hess, URS Corporation, the lead engineer for the project.

The Middle Great Seneca Creek Watershed Assessment Final Report is expected to be completed in June 2013.

Input and feedback from the Mayor and City Council is sought in order to be included in the Final Report.